ABSTRACT

According to one embodiment of the present invention, a method combines a set of digital streams into a set of digital multiplexes. This can include, for example, identifying a first communication channel that is currently accepting packets at a rate that can cause the nominal capacity of the channel to be exceeded. A second communication channel that is currently accepting packets at a rate that is less likely to cause the nominal capacity of the channel to be exceeded is also identified. One or more of the streams that comprise the multiplex that is assigned to the first communication channel are selected to form selected streams. Further, the packets of the selected streams can be reassigned from the multiplex corresponding to the first communication channel to the multiplex corresponding to the second communication channel. In some embodiments, one or more receivers of one or more of the selected streams are instructed to retune from the frequency corresponding to the first communication channel to the frequency corresponding to the second communication channel.